

## MOOSE (Meta-analyses of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Checklist

Item No	Recommendation	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
<b>Reporting of Background</b>			
1	Problem definition	Page2-3/Line49-61	Introduction/Paragraph1-2
2	Hypothesis statement	Page2-3/Line49-61	Introduction/Paragraph1-2
3	Description of Study Outcome(s)	Page2-3/Line49-61	Introduction/Paragraph1-2
4	Type of exposure or intervention used	Page3/Line62-67	Introduction/Paragraph3
5	Type of study design used	Page3/Line62-67	Introduction/Paragraph3
6	Study population	Page3/Line62-67	Introduction/Paragraph3
<b>Reporting of Search Strategy</b>			
7	Qualifications of searchers (eg, librarians and investigators)	Page3/Line86-90	Methods/Paragraph4
8	Search strategy, including time period included in the synthesis and keywords	Page3/Line73-78	Methods/Paragraph2
9	Effort to include all available studies, including contact with authors	Page3/Line86-90	Methods/Paragraph4
10	Databases and registries searched	Page3/Line86-90	Methods/Paragraph4
11	Search software used, name and version, including special features used (eg, explosion)	Page4/Line107-116	Methods/Paragraph7
12	Use of hand searching (eg, reference lists of obtained articles)	Page3/Line86-90	Methods/Paragraph4
13	List of citations located and those excluded, including justification	Page3/Line80-84	Methods/Paragraph2
14	Method for addressing articles published in languages other than English	Page3/Line73-78	Methods/Paragraph1
15	Method of handling abstracts and unpublished studies	N/A	N/A
16	Description of any contact with authors	N/A	N/A

<b>Reporting of Methods</b>			
17	Description of relevance or appropriateness of studies assembled for assessing the hypothesis to be tested	Page4/Line92-97	Methods/Paragraph5
18	Rationale for the selection and coding of data (eg, sound clinical principles or convenience)	Page4/Line92-116	Methods/Paragraph5-7
19	Documentation of how data were classified and coded (eg, multiple raters, blinding, and interrater reliability)	Page4/Line92-116	Methods/Paragraph4-6
20	Assessment of confounding (eg, comparability of cases and controls in studies where appropriate)	N/A	N/A
21	Assessment of study quality, including blinding of quality assessors; stratification or regression on possible predictors of study results	Page4/Line107-116	Methods/Paragraph7
22	Assessment of heterogeneity	Page4/Line107-116	Methods/Paragraph7
23	Description of statistical methods (eg, complete description of fixed or random effects models, justification of whether the chosen models account for predictors of study results, dose-response models, or cumulative meta-analysis) in sufficient detail to be replicated	Page4/Line107-116	Methods/Paragraph7
24	Provision of appropriate tables and graphics	N/A	N/A
<b>Reporting of Results</b>			
25	Graphic summarizing individual study estimates and overall estimate	Page4-5/Line120-125	Results/Paragraph1
26	Table giving descriptive information for each study included	Page5/Line127-134	Results/Paragraph2
27	Results of sensitivity testing (eg, subgroup analysis)	Page6/Line169-170	Results/Paragraph8
28	Indication of statistical uncertainty of findings	Page5-7/Line135-167	Results/Paragraph3-7
<b>Reporting of Discussion</b>			
29	Quantitative assessment of bias (eg, publication bias)	Page6-8/Line173-212	Discussion/Paragraph1-6
30	Justification for exclusion (eg, exclusion of non-English-language citations)	Page6-8/Line173-212	Discussion/Paragraph1-6
31	Assessment of quality of included studies	Page6-8/Line173-212	Discussion/Paragraph1-6
<b>Reporting of Conclusions</b>			
32	Consideration of alternative explanations for observed results	Page8/Line215-218	ConclusionParagraph1
33	Generalization of the conclusions (ie, appropriate for the data presented and within the domain of the literature review)	Page8/Line215-218	ConclusionParagraph1
34	Guidelines for future research	Page8/Line215-218	ConclusionParagraph1
35	Disclosure of funding source	N/A	N/A

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\*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copy editing and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.